The project aimed to improve management and scheduling of irrigation in the command areas of identified schemes and institutional development of state irrigation departments.

4. Hydrology Project :

The project will support upgradation and expansion of the physical infrastructure for all aspects of the collection, collation, processing & dissemination of hydrological and hydrometeorological data.

(c) (i) *AP Irrigation & CAD Project :* Most of the project components for the Nagarjuna Sagar Project listed above were completed by the extended closing date of June, 1985.

(ii) *AP II Irrigation Project :* Overall physical progress as of August 24, 1994 on SRBC was 38% and on SRSP 21%. Works under these are expected to be completed under AP III Project under implementation by the State Government for which World Bank assistance is also being sought.

(iii) *NWMP :* The project has been completed by the extended closing date of 31.3.95.

Modernisation of Burn Standard Co. Ltd.

3592. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the management of Burn Standard Co. Ltd. fulfilled the object of Take Over and Nationalisation Act towards modernisation and diversification of its refractory units.

(b) if so, the total investment made for modernisation, diversification and returns therefrom;

(c) how many consultants were engaged by the company for preparation of Feasibility Reports for units;

(d) the detailsy of recommendations made; and

(e) the details of implementation of the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The objective of the Take Over of erstwhile private companies namely M/s. Burn & Co. Ltd. and M/s. Indian Standard Wagon Co. Ltd. was to take over, in public interest, of the management of these undertakings, pending nationalisation, with a view to ensuring rational and co-ordinated development and production of rolling stock, other products of iron and steel industry and other goods needed by such industry and for matters connected therewith of incidental thereto. To the extent that the Company continues to manufacture railway wagons, refractories etc. after nationalisation, the objective of nationalisation is fulfilled.

(b) The total investment for modernisation and diversification made in the refractory units since take over is Rs. 34.52 crore. Barring Salem unit, all other refractory units have been incurring losses even after take over.

(c) Three.

(d) and (e) The consultants recommended capital expenditure for modernisation and expansion of the refractory units. On the basis of the recommendations of the consultants, Rs. 2.33 crore was invested in Gulfarbari, Niwar and Salem units. A sum of Rs. 19.25 crore was further invested for modernisation and expansion of Salem refractory unit. Rs. 0.61 crore was invested in the Durgapur works and Rs. 1.38 crore was invested in the Lalkuti works.

[Translation]

'DHARNA' Staged by All India PNB Officers' Association

3593. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the office bearers of the All India Punjab National Bank Officers Association staged a 'dharna' in recent past in support of their demands in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of their main demands; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government on each of the demands?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Punjab National Bank has reported that the main demands of the All India Punjab National Bank Officers' Association were as under :—

1. The Bank should not issue charge sheets on trivial routine matters;

2. The Bank should increase rental limits for leased accommodation;

3. Settlement of the fitment formula of promotee officers after 1.11.1987 which has resulted in reduction of the salary by 1/2 increament;

4. Quickening the process of promotions with retrospective effect on account of non promotion since 1993;

5. The Bank should not down-grade the branches on the basis of the revised norms of categorisation in haste;

6. The Bank should not delay the process of selection and posting of Assistant Managers; and

7. The Bank should redeploy the staff to needy pockets speedily.

(c) The Bank has since been advised to take suitable action on various demands as per extent guidelines.

[English]

Excise Duty Evasion by Small Scale Industries

3594. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Tax haven under North Block's shadow" appearing in the Economic Times dated August, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the number of cases of excise duty evasion detected during the last three years in the NCR, Delhi and approximate amount of excise duty evaded thereby; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that manufacturers do not evade the excise duty so blatantly?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is a fact that manufacturers of copper ingot and wires located at Saboli Village, Delhi have been found to indulge in evasion of Central Excise duties. 75 metric tonnes of stainless steel ingots were also seized by Central Excise officials for clandestine clearance by a unit at Rajasthan Udyog Nagar, Delhi. Central Excise Duty evasion detected in NCR, Delhi during the last three years are as follows :—

Year	No. of cases	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	594	3457.27
1994-95	583	7333.46
1995-96	396	2224.86

(c) As seen from the news item itself the Anti-evasion activities such as gathering of intelligence, surprise checks of production, transit checks, surveillance, etc., have been intensified to check evasion of Central Excise duty.

Made in India Show

3595. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a four days 'Made in India' show was organised in Nairobi (Kenya) recently; and

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred on the show and the business generated during that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir. A four days' 'Made in India' Show was organised during 15—18th August, 1996 in Nairobi (Kenya) by the Confederation of Indian Industry.

(b) As reported by CII, the estimated expenditure on this show was Rs. 1,21,40,000/-. It has generated business enquiries worth US $ 35 million.

Investment in Public Undertakings

3596. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment made in Central Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years; and

(b) the details thereof, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Total investment in terms of gross bloc in Central Public Sector Undertakings as on 31.3.1993, 31.3.1994 and 31.3.1995 was Rs. 174837.04 crores, Rs. 198901.86 crores and Rs. 227348.77 crores respectively. Statewise detail of gross block for three years' period is given in Table 1.27 of Chapter-I of Volume-I of P.E. Survey, 1993-94 and 1994-95 laid in the Parliament on 22.3.1995 and 19.7.1996 respectively.

Check-off Facility in Regional Rural Banks

3597. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have extended the benefits of check-off facilities, transit leave on transfer, promotion from scale I to scale II officer and creation of supervisory cell at Head Office, in the Regional Rural Banks;

(b) if so, the reasons as to why such facilities have not yet been extend in Pithoragarh Gramin Bank of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the remedial action taken or proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Government have issued instructions governing the grant of check-off facility to the registered trade unions in the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). Further, Government have issued instructions to